

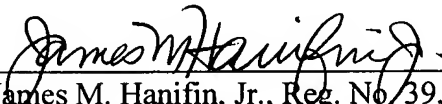
**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request entry of this preliminary amendment prior to examination. Claims 1-22 are pending.

Applicants have amended the specification to correct several errors and discrepancies. The foregoing amendments do not introduce new matter.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
James M. Hanifin, Jr., Reg. No. 39,213  
WOLF, GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C.  
600 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2211  
Telephone: (617) 720-3500

Date: May 13, 2004  
xNDD